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MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
44th Session
Agenda item 8

MEPC 44/8
1 December 1999
Original: English

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Outcome of NAV 45

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This note provides information on the outcome of NAV 45 which is relevant to the work of the Committee.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 7
<i>Related documents:</i>	NAV 45/14

1 The Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation held its forty-fifth session (NAV 45) from 20 to 24 September 1999 and its report was circulated under the symbol NAV 45/14.

Establishment of an Area to be avoided off the north coast of Cuba

2 As requested by MEPC 42, NAV 45 considered the proposed area to be avoided off the north coast of Cuba (MEPC 42/10/3) taking into account the status of the Archipelago of Sabana-Camagüey as a PSSA and relevant information submitted to the MEPC on the sea area concerned (MEPC 40/7 and Add.1). NAV 45 also noted that MEPC 42 had further agreed that, since the proposed area to be avoided was for protection of the marine environment, the outcome of the discussion at NAV 45 should be reported back to the MEPC before a final decision was taken.

3 NAV 45 considered a proposal by Cuba (NAV 45/3/6) calling for the establishment of an "Area to be avoided" at the approaches to the ports of Matanzas and Cordenas and agreed to approve the proposed "Area to be avoided" (NAV 45/14, paragraph 3.21 and annex 3).

Identification and protection of special areas and particularly sensitive sea areas: Revision of resolution A.720(17)

4 NAV 45 noted that MEPC 43 had approved new procedures for the Identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, which supersede the procedures contained in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.5 of the annex to resolution A.720(17), and amendments to the Guidelines contained in resolution A.720(17) together with a covering draft Assembly resolutions (MEPC 43/21, annex 6) with a view to adoption by the twenty-first session of the Assembly.

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5 NAV 45 further noted that MEPC 43 had agreed (MEPC 43/21, paragraph 6.22) to invite NAV 45 to consider the proposed Assembly resolution and provide comments directly to the twenty-first session of the Assembly.

6 NAV 45 noted the draft Assembly resolution on Procedures for the identification of particularly sensitive sea areas and the adoption of associated protective measures and amendments to the guidelines contained in resolution A.720 (17) and considered the relevant parts of it. The NAV Sub-Committee did not find any discrepancies with the General Provision on Ships' Routeing, therefore endorsed the draft Assembly resolution prepared by MEPC 43 and requested the Secretariat to inform the Assembly accordingly (NAV 45/14, paragraph 3.25).

Action requested of the Committee

7 The Committee is invited to note the above information and take action as appropriate.
